TIMES-VIRGINIAN
*In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt*
Appomattox, Virginia

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**Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... *Editors and Publishers***

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### IS IT TOO LATE?

One of the vital questions which faces the United States at this very moment is that of industrial and defense dispersal. Although some of our losses have been dispersed, very little in the way of industrial dispersal has taken place since the end of World War II.

Now that it is self-evident that a satellite attack is feasible in the near future, one wonders, if Washington and the industrialists, who should be concerned, will not consider a proper program for the dispersal of United States industry.

It is hard to believe that the United States has continued to concentrate its industry and defense installations in spite of the words of warning at the end of World War II and the obvious trend in warfare, which showed beyond doubt that any new war would bring a rain of destruction from the skies.

In preparing for a surprise attack from the air, it is obvious that dispersal is the first order of business. The United States is far more vulnerable to surprise aerial attack with nuclear weapons than is the Soviet Union. There, defense industries have been dispersed and many factoris have been built underground. The United States, on the other hand, continues to build its skyscrapers and erect defense establishments in metropolitan and highly-conglomerated industrial centers.

If we fail to disperse our industry, the results may be a staggering tragedy. If we, in a democracy, cannot act to meet the crisis which evidently confronts us, then our democracy is failing and we are playing indirectly to the hands of would-be aggressors and demonstrating to the world a fault of the capitalistic system which could cost millions of lives and even the very freedom and security we cherish.

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### DECEMBER, 1957

December, the last month of the year, always comes in on a nostalgic note. The name itself is derived from the Roman ten, because December was the tenth month in the ancient Roman calendar.

December brings with it many things — the end of a long year, the shortest day in the year, the beginning of winter, Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve and, of course, Christmas Day itself.

December has become an important commercial month, and the over-commercialization of Christmas has made it a month many business men depend upon to balance their books, or bring in the profits for the year. There are relatively few memorable historical dates in this month.

George Washington died on December 14, 1799. The Boston Tea Party took place on December 16, 1773. The first successful flight in an heavier-than-air machine, by the Wright brothers, took place in North Carolina on December 17, 1903. Washington encamped at Valley Forge on December 19, 1777, twenty-four miles northwest of Philadelphia.

Woodrow Wilson was born December 28, 1856, at Staunton, Va. Andrew Johnson, the seventeenth President of the United States, was born in Raleigh, N. C. on December 29, 1808. The Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, bringing the United States into World War II, on December 7, 1941.

Winter will begin this year on December 21, at 12:12 in the morning. A new moon occurs on the same night, which means that a crescent moon will be visible in the sky on Christmas Eve and Christmas nights. The first quarter is reached on the 28th.

It is always an impressive event when December rolls around each year, because of the flurry of activity of the holiday season and the spirit which emerges, and because this is the last month of the year. For those who have left things undone in 1957 and who would achieve them this year, and for those who look back over the year and perhaps evaluate their performance in life, the time is at hand.

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### A SNAZZY CAR

We saw a picture the other day of a 1958 luxury automobile, modified especially to meet the needs of President Jimenez, of Venezuela. Th $30,000 end result is, in teen-age lingo, the most.

In the back seat President Jimenez has two telephones, a small bar, television, a tape recorder and a footrest which can carry two large guns. The television antenna is installed on the rear bumper, in thr center, and air-conditioning is carried in the trunk.

The television set is a 17-incher. In addition, the rear seats are motor-driven and convert to a lounging position.

All in all, it's a pretty sporty jalopy. The thought which occurs to us, however, is what might happen to the poor devil who bumps into the car, parking, or elsewhere.

In the first place, he would probably knock down the television antenna, probably disturb the wiring, in addition to other damage. If the damage couldn't be repaired in Venezuela, the car might have to be sent back to the United States.

Further complicating the picture, one might well knock down the glasses of lemonade off the bar in the back of the car with a good rap on the rear bumper and run the risk of seeing the rear seat occupants reach down for the gun-carrying section. The section is designed to carry several grenades, so a tap on the bumper might set off quite a Latin explosion.

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Trade in Appomattox! It pays you, and everybody who lives here.

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Individuals who set out to reform the human race will be pretty tired before the job is done.

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Church-goers do not necessarily lead model lives, but, on the average, they are our best citizens.

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## THE BIBLE SPEAKS

BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Philippians 1; Devotional Reading: Philippians 1:3-11.

### Full Courage

**Lesson for December 1, 1957**

SOME of the best of the Bible was written in jail. In fact, the Bible was mostly written not only about, but by and for, people in trouble. When Saint Paul wrote his famous little letter to the church at Philippi, he had been in a Roman prison for some time. If his trial went against him, he had nothing to expect but a death sentence. He was well along in years, too; just at the time of life when a man welcomes comforts. Paul had to get along without them. Paul needed the prayers of his friends, the help of the Holy Spirit. But he was also confident that with this help, he would honor Christ "with full courage," whether in living or in dying.

Dr. Foreman

**Never Easy**

It is almost never easy to stand up and be counted as a Christian. Easy enough when nothing is involved; but when being a Christian gets one into trouble, or even laughed at, that's different. The people these days who need our prayers and deserve our honor are the Christians in countries behind the iron curtain. We sometimes may think they are not as good Christians as they ought to be, but they are better than some of us would be in their circumstances. Take a high school boy in East Germany, for example. If he goes to church on Sunday, he will have to cut a youth meeting, set by the government at church time, on purpose. His absence will go on record; and when he applies for a job, or wants to go to college, he will find doors closed against him, because he was loyal to the church and not the government. You might think that going to church once a week is not much of a "witness for Christ," but in a situation like that, it is nothing short of heroic.

**Everything Against Him**

"Joining the church" calls for some stiffness of backbone, even in America. Young people who do it know that on the fence there is a gathering of vultures waiting for them to make their first mistake, commit their first sin as church members,—waiting for the chance to make fun, to say "I told you so." But it takes even more courage to confess Christ in a country where Christians are thought to be unpatriotic, and Christianity a "foreigners' religion." It takes most courage of all in a fanatic world where a person who becomes a Christian runs a risk of being killed for it.

Paul would understand this, for he had everything to discourage him. On the outside of his jail there were some "Christian" preachers who had their knives out for him, character-assassins as they were. And inside the prison, all the company Paul would have were other prisoners and Roman soldiers,—no very sympathetic congregation! Yet Paul went right on being a Christian and speaking a good word for Jesus. It was a situation that had everything to dishearten him. Many another in the same fix would have thought: What a glorious testimony I can give when I get out of here!

**God Brings the Best**

We know (from **Romans**) that Paul had wanted very much to visit Rome and preach there. But he hadn't the slightest ambition to go to jail there. He was eager to give a Christian witness; but it hadn't occurred to him that God would provide for him a very small church and a mighty unpromising congregation: a church house no bigger than a jail cell, a congregation mostly criminals and prison guards. And yet,—faced with this, he made the brave best of it, and was actually happy over it. God knows best; he brings the best out of the worst situations, the least likely people.

For one thing, the Gospel had made its way, only a beginning, but still a real start, in circles that would have been very hard to crash from the outside. The Praetorian Guard was made of hard men; but they were beginning to catch on to the Gospel. Timid Christians, one suspects outside the jail as well as in, were lifting their heads, catching the contagion of Paul's courage. And suppose the death-cell is ahead? Paul is not afraid. In death as in life, Paul says, "I shall not be at all ashamed."

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

## Washington Notes

**PEANUTS**

An eight per cent increase this season has been experienced by the peanut, according to the Agriculture Department, which reports that such an increase has taken place in the use of peanuts for making candy, salted peanuts, peanut butter and miscellaneous products.

**CATTLE DISEASES**

New progress is being made in eradicating brucellosis among cattle, the Agriculture Department reports. Brucellosis is a hazard to humans who may develop undulant fever from contact with diseased animals or their products. While the disease still accounts for losses of about $50,000,000 a year in unborn or stillborn calves, reduced milk output and cost of replacing infected stock.

**DROP IN C. OF L.?**

Government price experts have said that the cost of living may dip slightly in January and then level off into a period of comparatively stability. Between now and the end of the year, however, some further rise in the consumer price index may occur, partly because of the big holiday buying season and the arrival of new car models at higher prices.

**FARM POPULATION DOWN**

The farm population is off by nearly 2,000,000 in the last year, to an estimated 20,396,000. But it puts the rural population at 60,677,, compared with 57,985,000 a year ago. By farm people it means persons who live on farms and engage in farming. The rural population includes rural residents, whether they live on farms or not, and also persons living in small towns and communities of fewer than 2,500 persons.

**LESS BEEF**

The Agriculture Department predicts smaller supplies of beef during the next two or three years—possibly as much as one-eighth below last year's consumption average. Cattle numbers started a decline last year under the influence of drought and low prices. Once a downward trend sets in, it takes several years to reverse it.

**'LESS BUTTER - MORE GUNS'**

Sinclair Weeks, Commerce Secretary, has called on industry to support a "less butter - more guns" Federal budget to meet the challenge of Soviet science. The budget President Eisenhower will hand Congress in January is expected to call for stepped-up military and foreign aid spending and curtailment of civilian programs.

U. S. and Allies are urged to pool scientific talents.

ISLAND DISAPPEARING

Rio De Janeiro.- Trouble in the Atlantic about 600 miles Rio De Janeiro, is reported ing, according to Dr. Richard Hoge, of the Smithstitute. "It's listed, about square, was formed as a volcanic upheaval. The cooled and became rock, now losing its residence sea is making dangerous

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...rd

...Nov 23.- "Thanks be unto ...his unspeakable gifts." —2 Corinthians 9:15.

...e people of these United ...re the most blessed of all ...I believe, and what are we ...good to merit the untold ...r Every day should be a ...ay.

...ther is certainly giving us ...mber and heavy rains.

...n is the home of Mr. and ...C. Harvey on Tuesday ...on Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Cole-...f Mr. Abbitt Wooldridge.

...Richard Carson and Mrs. Ed-...were visitors in the home ...and Mrs. T. C. Harvey on ...side.

...and Mrs. T. C. Harvey visited ...me of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie ...on Wednesday night.

...e numbers are not having ...ch hunting, but there are ...ber, they say. It's too wet.

...ers are getting their tobac-...for market.

...n is the home of Mr. and ...E. Watson on Saturday ...r. and Mrs. T. C. Har-...ette, Mrs. Richard Carson ...Lewis Turner.

...all of our readers a nice Thanksgiving and no car wrecks.

We wish our Editor and his wife a happy wedding anniversary and many happy returns.

### OF INTEREST TO VETERANS

A. C. Clement, Area Director, Division of War Veterans Claims, 1111 Church, St., Lynchburg, has released the following statement, of interest to veterans:

The recent laws on disability payments from the Social Security Administration and their effects on Veterans Administration benefits have excited many inquiries, suggesting that further information on the subject is in order.

The VA pays two disability benefits to living veterans: (1) Compensation for disabling conditions acquired in service, and (2) Pension for total and permanent disability not service incurred which prevents employment, and when income is limited.

Social Security also has two types of payments to the living worker: (1) Disability Insurance to the insured between the ages of 50 and 65 when permanent disabilities prevent employment, and (2) Old Age Insurance which is awarded to men at age 65 and may be paid to women at age 62.

Veterans entitled to VA Compensation may draw either one of the two Social Security benefits without one affecting the other.

However, a veteran entitled to VA Pension and SS Disability Insurance can draw only a sum equal to whichever payment is the higher. He may choose to have payments made by both agencies, which will result in the lower award being paid in full by one agency and the balance paid by the other. Illustration: a 62 year old permanently disabled veteran is found entitled to a VA Pension of $66.15 and to SS Disability Insurance of $85.00. This man can receive only $85.00, regardless of the agency or agencies paying the benefits.

At age 65 a veteran can draw a VA Pension and SS Old Age Insurance because after 65 the SS benefit is not a disability payment, but is based on retirement.

## Pamplin Rt. 1

Pamplin, R. F. D. One.- Visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Webber, of Pamplin on Sunday were Mr. Lawrence Webber, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Webber, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Webber, Miss Bobby Jean Webber, all of Pamplin; Mr. Jimmie Easter, of Brookneal, and Mr. and Mrs. Wade Berry, of Richmond.

Mrs. Frank Webber's sister, of Lynchburg, Mrs. C. D. Perry, is in the Virginia Baptist Hospital. We wish for her a speedy recovery.

Subscription rate: $2.00 a year; payable in advance.

## Beckham

Beckham, Nov. 25.- Mr. and Mrs. Abner Martin, Phil and Patricia, of Richmond are visiting Mrs. T. M. Martin and Miss Eunice Martin this week.

Mrs. T. R. Martin, Jr. was dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Moore on Thursday.

Visiting Mrs. T. M. Martin and Miss Eunice Martin on Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Martin, Sam and Charles, of Lynchburg; Rev. Aaron Smith and Thomas Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Martin, Jr., Faye and Janet visited Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Reynolds Saturday evening.

The Home Demonstration Club will meet with Mrs. S. G. Martin Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morris, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Martin, Jr., Janet and Faye were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jutson Morris, Glenn Morris and Mrs. J. T. Morris.

Mr. and Mrs. David Martin and Pam visited Mr. and Mrs. Herman Moore, Jr., Dorothy Jane and Dianne on Sunday.

Your presence is expected at Trinity Methodist Church on Thanksgiving Day at 10:00. We wish for every one a happy and joyous day.

## Comment On Sports

By Pete Fritchie

Washington.- With the hunting season already in progress in many areas and about to begin in others, it is well to talk a little about 1957 and hunting practices in general.

Most areas in the country report good hunting prospects for this season. Pheasant—and we are talking about bird hunting only in this column—will be shot out early, as usual, in many areas, but there are other forms of hunting after that.

Duck are not yet plentiful in many of the southerly states, though the season is already under way. Hunters saw must summer duck on opening day in a number of instances. Quail—in the various varieties, seems to be more numerous in most sections, and, generally speaking, where there was plenty of water, and adequate food, they have reproduced well this year.

In the midwest, a new type of quail—apart from the larger bobwhite—is being tried this season. They have been banded and hunters have been asked in Nebraska, for example, to let the state know where and when they are found. The small quail, known as coturnix, are said to habitate open country, unlike the bobwhite, and to hold well for dogs.

However, they provide "singles" shooting. They do not covey up. For those who have open land and who like singles shooting (and many prefer this to a covey shot), the coturnix might prove the answer. They might allow us to enjoy bobwhite hunting in and around fields and farms and coturnix hunting on more open land.

Whatever you are hunting this year (and bobwhite are scarce except in some of the southeastern states and a few to the west) leave a decent-sized covey to populate the territory over the spring and summer—for restocking.

The greedy hunter who wipes out a covey when he can often finds that in the years to come no birds replace those killed, although sometimes birds will come in and repopulate decimated lands.

### *About The Home*

Do you drive yourself to "keep up with the Joneses?" If so, you are doing yourself and your family a great disservice. It is an actual fact that attempts to keep up with the Joneses can often lead to the mental hospital.

It is unfortunate that in our society the demand for respect takes so many forms. Most people are constantly striving to obtain all the respect that wealth or position make possible. There is great effort put into seeking to gain enough respect to compensate for economic limitations.

We are constantly trying to discover means of scoring prestige points in order to get ahead of competitors having the same income.

We are told that in this department the woman pays the highest price. Women are especially active in regard to competition, and they quite often pay in terms of mental health.

No house can be happy and normal where so much importance is attached to material things and social position. Children are greatly influenced by this attitude on the part of the mother. It effects their feeling of security.

The repercussions do not stop here. Quite often a woman who is putting such tremendous effort into keeping up with the Joneses is the type that feels she is a cut or so above her husband socially. She not only undermines the authority of the male in the house but may create a pathological environment for the children.

### CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS HAD EIGHT LITTLE PIGS

On his second voyage, Admiral (of the Ocean Sea) Christopher Columbus brought eight pigs to the New World. These first pigs on this hemisphere multiplied — and how!

Quoting early Spanish authorities, Captain Richard J. Morrisey tells the story. In the past quarterly journal of the Agricultural History Society, he also credits Columbus as among the first to understand the need to grow food for the colonial Americans. Later Spanish governors followed the policies he started.

From the beginning made possible by Columbus, Spanish hog growers in the West Indies furnished the pork which made possible the conquests of Mexico and Peru. One writer claims the hog was even more important than the horse to those expeditions. "It contributed to a degree that defies exaggeration."

Another early official in the Indies exclaimed, "In what land has it ever been heard of or known that in such a short space of time and in regions so far removed from this Europe of ours, so much livestock and crops are produced and in such abundance as our eyes behold in these Indies, after being brought over hither across such broad expanses of sea?"

Blessed is he who expects nothing for he shall never be disappointed. —Pope.

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